1/27/76

Senator Charles Mathias (attn. Bob Kelley)
Senate Office Bldg.
Washington, D.C.

Dear Mac,

One of the smoothest con men of all time, Hugh McDonald, is using the Church committee's interest in a broadcast he made in Oregon as a means of selling his book, which is as complete and deliberate a fraud as there can be in publishing.

He did this within the past few days in a Pittsburgh broadcast my correspondent was unable to tape.

It has been months since I asked the Department of Justice to conduct a fraud investigation. There has been no response to this or a reminder in which I suggested that the failure to respond or even inquire can be taken as an indication that the fraudulent books serves the interest of executive agencies.

For all practical purposes, in any of its three inconsistent forms, this book is what the spooks call a "black" book.

I had to conduct an investigation when I was commissioned by a well-known publisher and a publication to first read the book and then address its integrity.

Believe me, despite the protections and escape hatches this glib con artist has built in, there is no question about fraud or mail fraud at the least. The first version has LBJ as the man who hired this alleged assassin, and I have it and the second version. Both differ from the printed one, which has omissions essential to the story after I raised objections to them.

I do not know what the committee's interest is, if McDonald did not again lie. But if I can help I'm willing to and in a position to.

It if gets that Oregon or other tapes and if it transcribes any, I would appreciate being able to fill out my file in the event there is some official interest after the committee's life ends and for the completeness of the archive I'll leave.

Coinciding with the real push on this book, the one I ended, was a Texas operation by a commercial agency composed of former intelligence types. They have since fallen completely silent, many big promises about their "investigation" that "solved" the JFK assassination forgotten.

Our best,

Harold Weisberg